

CUP 21 9.15/49

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*The Royal Navy Suitably Manned, being the safety of GREAT BRITAIN, the Exercise of which the Terror of other Nations, and several former Motions, shews a Desire that some Easy Method may be found for Manning the Whole, or any Part as Occasion may require, which Encouraged me to offer this to the Honourable the Parliament of Great Britain, as the Only and Effectual Way to Man the Royal Navy with Able Seamen, without this abusive, Destructive and Chargeable Method of Impresssing.*

**T**HE whole Nation of *Great Britain* being fill'd with the Sence of the inconveniencies of divers kinds that attend the Method of Impresssing; too late an instance in print, of the Death of a Lieutenant, accompanied with several others wounded, &c. by this Method.

*First*, The Liberty of the Subject openly Violated. *Secondly*, The unsuitable Men that are taken. *Thirdly*, The Extraordinary Charge. *Fourthly*, Landmen per Force carried aboard Ships of War, they know not, so cannot do their Labour; thereby the Ships of War are not sufficiently Manned. *Fifthly*, It takes the Bread from such Families who gets it another way. *Sixthly*, Those Men not being used to the Sea, directly fall into Distempers, and infect those that are able Seamen. Thus also Disenable His Majesties Ships, and many other great Inconveniencies attend the method of Impresssing. All which, in my humble Opinion, may with ease, be prevented; and the Royal Navy at all times manned with able Seamen on any sudden Occasion.

**THUS**, to bring it into an easy Method; That His Royal Majesty be pleased to Order the Commissioners of His Customs in *London* and *Dublin* in *Ireland*, to write to a suitable Officer under them in every Out-Port, charging said Officer to send them a Certain Account of the Ships and Batques, &c. and Boat, that makes a Livelihood on the Water; so many of such and such sorts, on the penalty of being displaced if they do not faithfully comply. This done, the very Number of Ships, &c. in *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, will surprize the Enemies of this Nation, and done with Ease, every thing Registered being in proper Offices.

BY this Method Judgment may be given of the Number of Men fit to serve His Majesty, a few out of every Place, so assuredly a sufficient Number of Seamen may be had at any time to furnish according to the Number of Ships of War fitted out. By this Method, be it never so sudden, by the time Ships can be fitted, Men may be ready to go on Board.

**FOR** Executing this, the Chief Person in Authority in every Place where Seafaring Men Live, fittest to Order the Number required of said Place; and for such as comes willingly, only at the Neighbourly Notification of the Magistrate without the exercise of his Authority, such may have, being able Seamen, 25 Shillings per Month, and every Volunteer that may not prove an Able Seaman, as some using the



the Water may not, such instead of 18 have 20 Shillings *per* Month, and w  
quired ability full Pay. But in case the Officer be forced to exercise his Power  
that such never so Able, should have but 23 Shillings *per* Month common  
and those not Able 18, and that no such Rigor be used as at present, ther  
only be a proper Order left at the Habitation of the Person designed, knowin  
to be in the Place, and if such refuse his Countrys Service, by not appearing  
Hours, he may be fined 20 Shillings, to be paid immediately by Distrain  
he bring a suitable Person in his Room; but if not, then the Person that sup  
Place Voluntarily may have the said Fine for his Encouragement: And th  
Officer may not neglect his Duty, a suitable Obligation may be laid on him.

ALSO, accordingly Travelling Charges allowed, so much *per* Mile Kings  
which prevents the abuse, the Person not appearing on Board the Ship may b  
up as a Defter as in the Land Service.

THIS Method will not only save the great Expence the Nation is at in  
Men for the Royal Navy, but also prevent the many great Abuses in the Me  
Impressing; by this Method any Number of Ships may be Manned at any t  
easy as so many Merchant Ships, and with suitable Men, be the Occasion m  
Sudden.

NOW I humbly beg Leave to give my Opinion, how to prevent the  
quent abuses of those belonging to the Royal Navy, that Men may be Enco  
to get their Livings in His Majesties Service.

FIRST, To prevent the Notorious Abuse by Powers of Attorney and Bills  
those Abuses not only damnifies the Subject, but also lessen the Esteem f  
Majesty's Service. To prevent these Evils, I am humbly of Opinion, that an  
of Record be in every Port where Ships of War fit out, as *Woollwich, Ch*  
*Portsmouth* and *Plymouth*, that every Seaman may have a conveniency to Rec  
Power or Bill of Sale given; and whereas there may be Men taken on Board a  
Ports, that this Method may prove effectual, that an Officer called a Ships Cl  
Constituted to every Ship of War; that may keep a Book of Record of all Pow  
Bills of Sale given by any coming on Board at any other Ports wherefoever said Sh  
arrive. Also said Ships Clerk shall demand and those Officers at the Ports -af  
shall, before such Ships sailing, give unto said Ships Clerk, a List of Mens  
that has given Powers or Bills of Sale, thereby prevent the abuse of a Second  
that no Power or Bill be good that is not Recorded in the proper Office withi  
Days; and such Ships Clerk may have Midship-mens Pay and for Recording  
Power, &c.

SECONDLY, Another great Evil that attends Seamen in the Royal N  
too many sharpening Fellows that Act as Settlers on Board, and makes an un  
Advantage of too many unthinking Seamen. To prevent this abominable  
is my humble Opinion no such thing be allowed, but as Seamen must have  
&c. that a sufficient Store of such be provided by the Purser of every Ship o  
in every Country where said Ship may arrive, that the Seamens Real Wants  
supplied, and at Reasonable Rates. Also that the Purser may not make an  
vagrant advance. Doubtless it will be thought fit that the Purser be bounded,  
Evil not prevented. In my humble Opinion 15 *per Cent*, or what the Gre  
Wise Law-givers of this Nation may think more or less a sufficient Advant  
Liquors, &c. bought in Foreign Countrys. Not buying Wines as in the  
*ranion*, at Six Pence *per* Gallon. And sell the Seamen at Two Shillings, or  
at 18 Pence, and sell it at Four Shillings. Or Rum at *Barbadoes* at 8 Pence p  
and sell at 3 or 4 Shillings. Be the Ship in whatsoever Foreign Port, the Pur  
not Exact more than *per Cent* a Stated Price by Parliament; and that the  
do not abuse the Men in this respect, the Constituted Ships Clerk shall take  
and in order thereunto the Purser shall always let him, and some one appoin  
the Ships Company see the Purchas, and the Ships Clerk Note the Price in a  
And to enable said Purser to perform this, that th; Government lay him in



( 3 )

rate parcel of Goods suitable for the Port said Ship may be bound to. By this Method the whole Expence of the Royal Navy, or any part thereof, will be paid her at Home.

A NOTHER Thing I humbly beg leave not to Omit, it being for the good of many Families; Now I have proposed a Method that the Seamen of the Royal Navy shall not be abused in time to come. I presume it may not be taken a miss, the preventing the Unthinking among them, from abusing themselves and Families, by setting Reasonable Bounds to their Expences abroad. Thus, that the Purser from whence comes their Supply in Liquors and other Necessarys, shall not advance to them more than one Fourth, not exceeding one Third Monthly of their Wages, that being assuredly sufficient where Daily Bread is found for them: By which means their Families will be assured of Two Thirds to be spent at Home for their Support; this will give their Families Credit in their Absence, and so Encourage them, that instead, as now, hiding them from Press-Gangs, then they will by all means advise them to serve His Majesty. And that neither Purser nor People may plead Ignorance in Advances, the purser may, at the End of every Month, deliver unto the Ships Clerk a List of the Foot of the Sum Advanced to every Seaman, which he may Enter into a Book.

THIS Method of Impresssing has been very pernicious to Trade, Merchant Ships coming home of a Long Voyage, Richly Laden, and the Poor Seamen, after a long Toil, having hopes of enjoying their Families with the Effects thereof, are met by a Press Ketch, &c. and are hauld away, also a few ordinary Hands put in their places, and too often the Ship and Goods Miscarry; also too often they disable Ships Outward-bound, to the great Damage of their Voyage, all of which this Method prevents.

AT this Time there are many Observers of the Noise made in Manning 30 Ships, they say *England* has Equivolently more Ships than Men; But in my humble Opinion when this Method shall be put in Practice, such will be obliged to say *England* have an Equivolent Number of Men, wanting only a Different Management.

THIS being a Proposal of very great Consequence and Importance, I have used many Words to set it by Particulars in a true Light, that so Great a Concern as Manning the Royal Navy might not Drag so heavily thro' so many inconveniencies, or Trade by Sea or Land be any longer disturbed. With great Submission I pray Leave to finish this Advantageous Proposal with saying, to compleat so Great a Work, it may be Convenient that a General Office of Record be in *London*, unto which all the aforesaid Offices, and Ships Clerks may Transmit a List of all Mens Names that has given Powers or Bills, by which Method such Office at once will be Capable of Transmitting a full List unto any Place where Ships of War may be Paid. Also that every Ships Clerk, on the arrival of any Ship from a Foreign Country, shall repair to said Office, to give account what he has Transacted in the Voyage.

BY this Method, *First*, The Number of Men known fit for His Majesty's Service. *Secondly*, A Trifle of Charge, and Men no way abused, neither Merchant Ships Out or Home. *Thirdly*, Men to be had with Ease whensoever required. *Fourthly*, The Seamens Families in His Majesty's Service assured of Two Thirds of their Husbands Wages. *Fifthly*, The whole Charge of the Royal Navy spent or paid here at home. *Sixthly*, To say all, this Method proposed, with such Amendments as the Great and Wise Law-givers of this Nation may think Necessary, in my humble Opinion, cannot fail of answering the desired End; any Number of Ships of War suitably Manned, and all Persons by Sea and Land made safe and easy in their Method of Life. Nothing to be done, but according to the Number of Ships of War fitted out, Men according to the Number of Ships, &c. belonging to any Place, so many Men sent for, and those will be Suitable Men, not such as by the present Method.

KNOWING this Scheme, Method or Proposal to have in it so many National Advantages emboldened me to make it publick, to give opportunity for a further Improvement





(4)

Improvement for my Countrys Good. If it may be thought I have been deserv'd  
and that the Thing propos'd may by no means miss of a due Effect, if His Ro-  
Majesty would be Graciously pleas'd to give me the care of the General Office  
Record, with the greatest Faithfulness and Loyalty, I would see that every Part  
Branch of what I have propos'd, performed; too many times things fail for want  
of due Execution, and the proposer blamed for the fault of the Manager. I humbly  
hope, to be by both Houses, Recommended to His Majesties Royal Favour  
Bounty, for this my good Intention: I have not contriv'd a Charge of 60,000  
*per Annum* as formerly for Registering, but to save the great Charge of Impression  
attended with other Evils, too many here to Insert.

March the 23d,  
1725.

I am His most Excellent Majesties most Dutiful Subject  
And the Right Honourable, the House of Lords,  
Honourable House of Commons; their most Humble  
and Obedient Servant

GALFRIDUS GRA

This Proposal appears to be finished the 10th of last  
Month, only wanted a suitable opportunity of Delivery.

This Proposal is Registered according to Law, and  
here Noted, to prevent such as would Infringe the  
Property of the Proposer. This being for the Welfare  
of all His Majesty's Extensive Dominions; by the Au-  
thors leave I printed it, that it might reach every  
Part of it.

If this finds Acceptance, I can Propose a Profitable Method for Employing  
super-abounding Seamen, to prevent their stragling to other Countrys, when  
Majesty may have no occasion.

ALSO a Method to preserve the Rigging of the Royal Navy, the Cordage  
Dry-Rot, and the Sails from Mildew; the Two great Enemies in length of Time

AND Timber may be so Managed as to endure as long again.

SION COLLEGE  
LIBRARY.

Will save many Thousand Pounds  
*per Annum.*

A L S O

Prevent the Former Abuse  
thereof.

A N D

For Manning the Royal  
Navy.

PROPOSAL





deserving;  
His Royal  
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AN EFFECTUAL  
PROPOSAL